

Week Ending September 28, 1997

Released 3:00 pm, September 29, 1997

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 4.2 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending September 28, 1997. The main farming activities for the week were harvesting corn, rice and soybeans and defoliating cotton. Soil moisture conditions were rated 12 percent very short, 23 percent short, 45 percent adequate and 20 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1996	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Grain Harvested	91	79	86	78	---	---	---	---	---
Cotton <i>2/3</i>	Open Bolls	85	74	96	95	1	6	33	50	10
	Harvested	8	5	27	20					
Rice	Mature	95	89	93	92	0	8	26	58	8
	Harvested	66	56	78	69					
Sorghum	Turning Color	100	98	100	100					
	Mature	92	90	100	99	2	6	27	60	5
	Grain Harvested	76	71	88	83					
	Silage Harvested	72	70	92	94					
Soybeans	Setting Pods	99	98	100	100					
	Turning Color	81	76	87	82	1	10	27	48	14
	Shedding Leaves	68	60	66	57					
	Harvested	34	24	29	22					
Wheat	Planted	4	2	4	6	---	---	---	---	---
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	97	95	99	99	---	---	---	---	---
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	27	25	44	53	0	6	40	54	0
Peanuts	Harvested	19	17	47	57	0	0	7	89	4
Cattle						1	5	22	55	17
Pasture						6	15	34	39	6

### County Agent Comments

"Last week's rain should help late soybean and sweetpotato crop progress. Cotton farmers began applying defoliant last week."

— Ricky Ferguson, Pontotoc County

"Last week's rain, which was much needed, is aiding late soybean and fall seeded crops. Soybean harvesting began last week with favorable yields reported. Cotton is a few days away from picking. The rain also helped pastures improve."

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

"Cotton farmers were able to get some harvesting done prior to the rain; approximately half of the local crop has been defoliated. Corn is mostly harvested with yields ranging from poor to excellent for this region. The rain was needed for germination of cool season grasses but will likely cause a reduction in the quality of cotton."

— Ernie Flint, Attala County

"Recent rains may have helped fill out pods on late maturing soybeans. The rain delayed cotton picking but didn't affect the quality. Ryegrass and other winter annual growers were extremely pleased with rain. Prior to the rain very little of our winter annuals had germinated."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin County

This publication is part of a series that first began in 1872 and continuously published since. In Mississippi, this report is a result of the cooperative efforts of:

U.S. Department of Agriculture  
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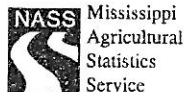
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Mississippi Agricultural  
Statistics Service  
Thomas L. Gregory, State Statistician

# Weather Summary from September 22, 1997 to September 28, 1997 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	86	54								84	67		
Cleveland	89	55	71			1.81		3	3.27				
Tunica	85	57	71	69	+2	3.13	+2.49	4	3.34	85	65	74	
Extreme/Average	89	54	71	69	+2	2.47	+1.83	4	3.31	85	65	74	
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	83	49	67	67	+0	4.75	+3.99	5	7.29	82	64	74	0.16
Memphis	86	52	70	70	-0	4.40	+3.66	3	5.93				
Oxford	88	48	69	68	+1	5.19	+4.76	4	5.67				
Extreme/Average	88	48	69	69	+0	4.78	+4.14	4	6.30	82	64	74	0.16
3. Northeast													
Booneville	82	54	68	69	-1	1.80	+1.10	3	3.49				
Corinth	85	53	71	70	+1	3.91	+2.96	3	5.35				
Iuka													
Pontotoc	90	52	70	69	+1	1.14	+0.52	3	1.58	89	65	77	0.17
Tupelo	86	54	71	70	+2	1.04	+0.45	3	1.73				
Verona	89	56	72			1.55		3	2.41	88	66	76	0.14
Extreme/Average	90	52	71	70	+1	1.89	+1.17	3	2.91	89	65	77	0.15
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	91	55	73	72	+2	1.25	+0.86	3	2.27	94	72	83	
Greenwood	90	51	72	71	+0	1.87	+1.21	4	2.61				
Rolling Fork	91	55	73			1.78	+1.27	3	2.96	98	74	84	0.16
Stoneville													
Yazoo City	91	55	75	73	+2	0.55	-0.15	2	1.71				
Extreme/Average	91	51	73	72	+2	1.36	+0.79	3	2.39	98	72	84	0.16
5. Central													
Carthage	91	62	68	71	-3	1.54	+1.10	3	1.62				
Jackson	93	62	74	72	+2	2.06	+1.30	2	2.69				
Winona	88	54	70	69	+2	3.47	+2.94	2	3.95				
Extreme/Average	93	54	71	71	-0	2.36	+1.78	2	2.75				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						1.47	+1.11	1	1.95				
Columbus	90	63	76			1.64		3	2.57				
State University						0.82	+0.15	1	0.85	91	67	77	
Extreme/Average	90	54	76			1.31	+0.79	2	1.79	91	67	77	
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs						0.80		2	1.65	96	69	81	
Natchez	94	55	75	74	+1	1.05	+0.62	3	1.65				
Oakley						0.03	-0.49	1	1.32				
Vicksburg	91	57	73			2.09		3	2.26				
Extreme/Average	94	55	74	74	+0	0.99	+0.51	2	1.72	96	69	81	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	97	64	77	74	+3	0.88	+0.40	2	1.90				
McComb	93	60	75	73	+2	0.61	-0.22	3	2.78				
Extreme/Average	97	60	76	74	+3	0.70	+0.09	3	2.34				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont									0.43				
Hattiesburg	97	63	77	74	+3	0.50	+0.08	3	0.94				
Laurel													
Meridian	92	64	76	72	+4	0.89	+0.44	5	1.94				
Newton	95	64	76	71	+5	0.84	+0.42	2	1.54	92	70	78	0.12
Extreme/Average	97	63	76	72	+4	0.74	+0.31	3	1.47	92	70	78	0.12
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	97	61	77			0.34		2	0.81				
Biloxi	91	66	78			0.46		3	1.20				
Gulfport	91	65											
Pascagoula	94	64	76	79	-3	1.98	+1.19	2	2.58				
Poplarville		67				1.00	+0.63	1	1.60	96	73	84	0.21
Extreme/Average	97	61	77	79	-2	0.95	+0.37	2	1.55	96	73	84	0.21
State	97	48	73	72	+1	1.76	+1.18	3	2.65	98	64	78	0.17

DFN = Departure from Normal.

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